

REMARKS

In the Restriction Requirement mailed on May 20, 2005, the Examiner restricted claims 1-25. Specifically, the Examiner restricted the pending claims to one of the following groups:

Group I: Claims 1-22, as being drawn to a system and method for securing a welding electrode to a welding torch, classified in class 219, subclass 75; and

Group II: Claims 23-25, as being drawn to a method of manufacturing a collet body by drilling into a solid collet body member with a stepped drill bit, classified in class 408, subclass 1R.

Although Applicant does not necessarily agree with the Examiner's reasons for restriction and the restriction requirement, Applicant elects to prosecute claims 1-22 of Group I. Therefore, by the present Response, Applicant has canceled claims 23-25 without prejudice for possible inclusion in a divisional application. Upon entry of the amendments, claims 1-22 will be pending in the present application. Respectfully, Applicant requests reconsideration and allowance of all pending claims.

Conclusion

If the Examiner believes that a telephonic interview will help speed this application toward issuance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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